



MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL RESIDENTIAL CARE UNIT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

RESIDENTIAL CARE UNIT DESCRIPTION

Effective Date: December 17, 2008

Policy #: RCU- 06

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- I. PURPOSE:** To describe a supported living arrangement on the Montana State Hospital campus.
- II. POLICY:** In response to emergency situations created by high census or in response to identified patient needs, Montana State Hospital may provide Residential Services to patients no longer requiring hospital care, but needing continued support and a safe place to live while they wait for arrangements for a community placement to be finalized. These services will be called "Residential Care Unit".

Montana State Hospital patients must voluntarily agree to transfer to the Residential Care Unit.

Residential Care Unit residents at Montana State Hospital under an involuntary or forensic commitment will remain under that commitment but discharged from "hospital" care. This will permit the return of the individual to a hospital unit if necessary and will permit the transition to a conditional release to community mental health services.

The Residential Care Unit is intended to be a supported living arrangement provided by Montana State Hospital. This service is provided as an alternative to prematurely discharging patients to the community and to permit patients who no longer require hospitalization an opportunity for greater independence on the Montana State Hospital campus. This service is designed to prepare residents for community re-entry. It is also intended to help alleviate overcrowding on other hospital treatment units.

III. DEFINITIONS: None

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:

Residential Services Program Manager – To administer the Residential Care Unit program.

V. PROCEDURES:

- A. The Hospital Administrator will determine if there is a need to provide Residential Care Services. Arrangements will be made for the service to occupy a suitable facility.
- B. Patients may be transferred from a Hospital treatment unit by being placed on "Discharge Pending Placement" status as defined in the Montana State Hospital policy #AD-02, *Discharge from Hospital*. Patients must also agree to the transfer.
- C. Individuals in the Residential Care Unit program will be referred to as "residents" not

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patients.

- D. Residential Care Unit residents may participate in services and programs offered by Montana State Hospital. Continuation of previous treatment programs will be strongly encouraged.
- E. Medical care will be provided by the Montana State Hospital Medical Clinic. Psychiatric and medication management services will be provided by a licensed practitioner.
- F. Residential Care Unit residents may request return to a hospital treatment program or may be required to return by Montana State Hospital staff if a need is indicated. If they do return after having been discharged, hospital readmission procedures must occur.
- G. The Residential Care Unit program is subject to DPHHS reimbursement procedures.
- H. The Residential Care Unit program may be discontinued by the Hospital Administrator if a need to operate the program is no longer indicated or if sufficient resources are not available. Residents will be placed according to their needs and available services.

VI. REFERENCES: Montana State Hospital policy #AD-02, “Discharge From Hospital”

VII. COLLABORATED WITH: Hospital Administrator, Medical Director, Director of Nursing

VIII. RESCISSIONS: None, new policy

IX. DISTRIBUTION: Residential Care Unit Program Policy and Procedure Manual

X. REVIEW AND REISSUE DATE: December 2011

XI. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY: Residential Care Unit Program Manager

XII. ATTACHMENTS: None

_____/_____/_____
Ed Amberg Date
Hospital Administrator

_____/_____/_____
Janette Reget Date
Residential Services Program Manager